LIVE MUSIC ROCKS THE HILL

For a review of Hamilton cover band, Lester Biggs and the Robber Barons, see **page 11**.

HIGH HOPES FOR HOOPS

Men's basketball is off to a great start this season. See **page 16**.

HAMILTON COMPLIMENTS

A Facebook page offers anonymous compliments to boost campus morale. See **pages 7 & 9**.

THE SPECTATOR

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Volume LIII Number 10

Mass media attention threatens college reputation

by Keith MacArtney '13
Managing Editor

At 1:51 a.m. on Wednesday, November 14, the Kirkland Police Department was called to Dunham residence hall to assist Hamilton College Emergency Medical Services and Central Oneida County Volunteer Ambulance Corps with an unresponsive female student. The student was Stephanie Bongiovi '15, daughter of rock star Jon Bon Jovi, who was experiencing an overdose. At this scene, both Bongiovi and Ian Grant '13 were arrested for possession and use of heroin as well as other drug paraphernalia. Charges were later dropped due to the New York State "911 Good Samaritan Law," enacted last year in an effort to protect the lives of overdose victims.

While neither Bongiovi nor Grant are currently on campus, their future status is unknown at the present time, as College officials have refused to comment in an effort to protect the students' privacy as well as the integrity of the judicial process.

Reflecting on the proceedings of the event, Grant responded that he could not comment other than to say that, "The school handled this very well, while the police need to take a course or two to learn New York State law." Bongiovi declined to comment.

By the early hours of the morning of Nov. 15, the paparazzi had already hit the Hill, eager for any information on the young celebrity's late night tragedy. Perched outside commonly tracked areas of campus like the Burke Library and Kirner-Johnson, prominent entertainment media sources were aggressive in their questioning of busy students and faculty. Some students reported this abuse to Campus Safety, requesting that the reporters vacate our campus immediately. Despite the majority's refusal to comment, thousands of articles appeared on the Internet at a seemingly instantaneous rate.

As with any medical or judicial matter, the Hamilton College administration's primary focus in responding to the influx of media attention was the preservation of student privacy. Other than rhetorically admitting that the use of heroin was a violation of Hamilton College policy, the College also refused to provide any further comment to these inquisitive media sources on the status of Bongiovi and Grant.

Jeff Landry, the associate dean of students for health and safety, oversees the offices of Campus Safety, the Health Center and the Counseling Center, as well as the College's judicial process.

"Hamilton is committed to an environment free of illegal drugs and the excessive use of alcohol, and we take action when the situation warrants," commented Landry. "Some inappropriate and unacceptable behavior involving a small minority of Hamilton students has occurred recently and we are working to ensure members of our community abide by the laws of New York State and the policies of the College."

While the community's first concern was, of course, the wellbeing of its members, the inappropriate and unacceptable behavior of this small minority has provided a very negative portrayal of our College in the national media. Despite the fact that only a small portion of our community engaged in illicit drug use, large-scale media focus on a heroin overdose threatened the integrity of Hamilton's reputation.

One of the primary indicators of any institution's reputation is its application rate. Dean of Admissions Monica Inzer, while refusing to comment directly on the unique case of Bongiovi and Grant, said, "It is hard to predict the effect of positive or negative media attention on the admission process. I have seen instances where applications declined following a positive incident and increased following a negative incident. It is hard to know what to attribute changes in application numbers to—prior year's selectivity, demographics, economy, early decision trends or, yes, sometimes reputation—which can be shaped by student satisfaction, alumni, parents, friends, guidance counselors, guidebooks, rankings or the media."

While this unfortunate tragedy hit the press just one day before our Nov. 15 Early Decision Round I application deadline, Inzer was happy to report that Hamilton has "received 376 Early Decision Round I applications, which compares to our record-high 412 from one year ago, and is our second highest total on record."

It is impossible to confirm that the drop in Hamilton's early applications this year had any correlation to the high level of media attention drawn by Bongiovi's overdose.

Dean of Students Nancy Thompson, citing a campus survey conducted last spring, commented that, "Students report that the use of hard drugs is rare at Hamilton, but I am deeply concerned about any illicit drug use and will do my best to eradicate it from the Hamilton community. Our policy on illegal drugs is clear and the consequences for distribution and possession are severe."

On a positive note, despite this recent tragedy, Jon Bon Jovi will still host his Dec. 5 concert in New York City, from which all proceeds will benefit scholarships and the arts at Hamilton. The influential celebrity's continued support of Hamilton College attests to the strong sense of community support here on the Hill, even through personal struggles.

Heroin overdose
NBC NEWS
CNN
GAWKER
THE TIMES OF INDIA
Daily Mail
Forbes
abc
TMZ
THE HUFFINGTON POST
The New York Times
FOX NEWS
Us WEEKLY
NEW YORK POST
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Linsanity on the Hill
DAILY NEWS
ESPN
NEW YORK POST
People
The New York Times
The Observer-Dispatch
Need-blind announcement
The New York Times
The Observer-Dispatch
U.S.News & World Report
Over the past few years, Hamilton College has received national and international media attention with both positive and negative implications. While The Spectator acknowledges the gravity of the recent situation, a lack of sensitivity in major national publications exposes a deeper problem in our media culture.
This diagram is meant to demonstrate the unprecedented scale of media attention caused by the student heroin overdose on campus. The Spectator staff chose two positives instances of mass media coverage to contrast the incredible array of reports after an atypical tragedy. These lists are by no means comprehensive, but show the disproportionate media attention.

Students raise money for hurricane relief

by Kaitlin McCabe '16
News Writer

In wake of Hurricane Sandy, areas along the East Coast of the United States remain devastated by the storm. *The Washington Post* reported that this Category 1 storm became the largest Atlantic hurricane on record, as measured by diameter with winds spanning 1,100 miles, and is estimated in early calculations to have caused damage of at least $20 billion. To date, Sandy was the second-costliest Atlantic hurricane behind Hurricane Katrina.

Amidst the chaos of recovery, more than 240 American Red Cross blood drives were cancelled, resulting in a shortfall of about 8,000 blood and platelet donations. Due to such severe storm damages, the likelihood of blood drives being rescheduled was highly unlikely. As the amount of victims of the "Superstorm" rapidly increased, the Red Cross urged communities across the nation to run immediate blood and platelet donations in areas unaffected by this storm.

Although Hamilton College and the areas surrounding Clinton were fortunate to escape the treacherous conditions of Hurricane Sandy, the college community was still affected by the storm's effects. With a significant percentage of the student body originating from parts of the United States hit by the storm, many students on campus were troubled by the damage that faced their hometowns and loved ones. Thus, various groups of compassionate and dedicated students at Hamilton joined forces to assist victims of Hurricane Sandy.

In response to the Red Cross's desperate call for donations, the Men and Women's Rugby Teams hosted an Emergency Blood Drive on Wednesday, Nov. 14. With the help of David Thompson, the director of the Blood Fitness and Dance Center, team members Hannah Wagner '15, Clare O'Grady '14, Izzy Janzen '14, and Philip Shulman '14 worked with undying determination to get the word out about the much-needed drive. Captain Izzy Janzen stated, "We had over 120 students signed up to donate and had over 700 people invited to [the drive's official] Facebook group to get the message around... We are very proud of the enthusiastic response from the student body." David Thompson also expressed his gratitude for student involvement in the blood drive. He said, "The response to this drive was especially strong, and the willingness to give was incredible. I'm very proud of this community, and the Rugby teams did an outstanding job."

> **"We are very proud of the enthusiastic response from the student body"**
> *—Izzy Janzen '14*

In total, the drive received 79 donations, undoubtedly making it one of Hamilton College's most successful drives. Yet, students that were unable to participate in the drive still have an opportunity to assist victims of Hurricane Sandy. Various students and faculty members were turned away because the Red Cross representatives at the blood drive were simply unable to handle the massive volume of participants. Therefore, any individual who still wishes to donate blood is strongly encouraged to seek out other blood drives in surrounding areas.

Students other than those on the Rugby teams, however, were determined to provide relief to those affected by the hurricane. Sandhya Rao '15 lead a fundraiser in the Kirner-Johnson building with the support of Hamilton organizations such as COOP, the Philanthropy Committee and the Cultural Affairs Committee.

When asked about her reasons for running the fundraiser, Rao explained that her initial reasons were personal.

"Since Hamilton was not badly affected by the Hurricane, I thought most of the east coast escaped unscathed. Since my home is close to the shore, my parents were left in a very different situation. It took them 13 days to finally get power and heat back to the house, school was canceled for my younger brother, and they had to wait in line for three hours to get gas. Their stories made me realize the extent of the damage the Hurricane caused, and I knew I wanted to help other people in the area who were hit even harder by this storm."

Throughout the weeks after Hurricane Sandy that Rao held the fundraiser, approximately $500 were donated by Hamilton students and faculty, all of which will be given to the Union Beach Disaster Relief Fund, a fund created by the township of Union Beach to try and rebuild the lives of all the families hurt by the hurricane. According to Rao, in Union Beach, around 100 homes were destroyed, while 30 more were washed away completely, and the sole school in the area was flooded, preventing students from having classes.

In addition to these damages as a result of Sandy, a severe winter storm hit the town, and people who were consequentially homeless had to endure up to 55 mph winds and snow. The funds collected by the Union Beach Disaster Relief Fund will be allocated in order to help clean up the town, begin rebuilding and provide basic necessities for families in the region.

The enthusiasm and compassion demonstrated across the Hamilton campus in regards to assisting the victims of Hurricane Sandy is truly inspiring. No doubt such widespread participation can be expected should any service Hamilton can provide be required once more.

PHOTOS BY ELIZABETH COMATOS '15

Captain of the Women's Rugby Team Izzy Janzen '14 donates blood.

Students relax and eat goodies after donating blood. on Wednesday Nov 14 at the Rugby Team sponsored blood drive.

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency and draw attention to students' dangerous and destructive behaviors; *The Spectator* will publish a selection of the Campus Safety Incident Report each week. Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* will use their discretion regarding what is published.

Monday, November 5, 2012

3:18 p.m.	Medical emergency – residence hall
10:42 p.m.	Odor of natural gas – Kirner-Johnson

Friday, November 9, 2012

6:08 p.m.	Medical emergency – residence hall
7:35 p.m.	Medical emergency – residence hall
10:40 p.m.	Medical emergency – residence hall
11:30 p.m.	Alcohol complaint – residence hall (TipNow complaint)
11:33 p.m.	Noise complaint – residence hall (TipNow complaint)

Saturday, November 10, 2012

12:15 a.m.	Criminal mischief – Jitney 27
12:22 a.m.	Medical emergency – residence hall
12:48 a.m.	Medical emergency – residence hall
1:55 a.m.	Disorderly conduct – Bundy West exterior
4:30 a.m.	Suspicious incident – Residence hall
4:21 p.m.	Property damage – Days-Massolo Center

Sunday, November 11, 2012

12:03 a.m.	Medical emergency – Tolles Pavilion
12:23 a.m.	Medical emergency – residence hall
12:49 a.m.	Medical emergency – The Bristol Center
2:12 a.m.	Concern for welfare – residence hall
2:21 a.m.	Medical emergency – residence hall
2:38 a.m.	Medical emergency – residence hall

Hamilton graduate encourages students to work in D.C.

by Rachel Lieb '13
Editor-in-Chief

Interested in working in politics? Business? Law? Communications? How about the arts? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then, believe it or not, Washington D.C. is the place for you!

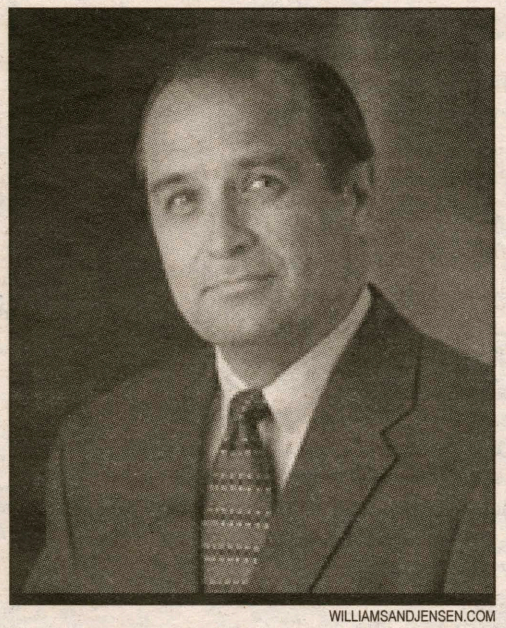
On Sunday Dec. 2, George Baker '74 will offer a talk for the campus community entitled "So You Want to Work in Washington? Careers on the Hill, From the Hill". Baker, who received his law degree from Catholic University in 1977, is currently a partner at D.C. lobbying firm Jensen PLLC, .

Baker's path to Washington might sound familiar to many Hamilton students: "I came down here as a junior in college with the Hamilton program and worked for my congressman for a few weeks and worked for the brand new Environmental Protection Agency and worked on the Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act."

Baker still meets with current participants in the Hamilton semester in Washington. "I listen to their thoughts and what they're interested in and it's the same stuff from a generation or two ago," he remarked.

Now, Baker has established a very successful career and wants to help current Hamilton students however he can: "I enjoy very much helping students enter this world in Washington and helping them make sense of it."

His talk on Dec. 2 will cover not only what it's like to work in Washington, but how to get started thinking about a career there. "The presentation is designed to provide a framework of how one might think about Washington in terms of your own career and aspirations and give kids a working head start on how to figure out their own strategy," Baker claimed. "There's just such a wide variety of players in the public policy drama here."



WILLIAMSANDJENSEN.COM

George Baker '74, to speak at Hamilton.

For those who believe that Washington is only a place for people who want to work in politics or public policy, Baker assured, "It's not a one-horse town. There are corporations, small businesses, non-profits and cultural opportunities in Washington."

Despite a difficult economy, Baker feels Hamilton students are well prepared to work in Washington, in whatever career field they choose. "[Hamilton] students are very well prepared to come work here," he said. "Their ability to analyze, their critical thinking, ability to write, ability to speak are all things which are primary skills and talents which are useful in Washington.... The government always has need for people and the policy discussion of non-governmental entities... continues. There is a permanent need for young people to come and fill positions."

Though Baker attended Hamilton before it became a co-ed institution, he sees more similarities than differences between students now and then. "I think they're a lot smarter," Baker remarked. "They are the same in many ways as well: they're eager, they're ambitious, and terribly nice young people. I think the kids today have a very nice spirit about them. The school becoming a co-ed institution was very positive for Hamilton. I think having women there has been a wonderful decision and wise development."

Baker's presentation will be aimed towards all class years and he encourages those who might not know exactly what they want to do yet to attend. "First, the presentation is designed not just for seniors, but for students in any year," Baker noted. "It would be beneficial to anyone, because it's not just about permanent employment for after graduation, but about how to pursue internships or finding a shadowing opportunity. It's never too early to be thinking about how the Hamilton experience will make you a happy, productive person in life, and part of that is thinking about what you want to do with the skills you acquire at Hamilton in terms of future employment."

Baker's talk, "So You Want to Work in Washington? Careers on the Hill, From the Hill," will take place on Sunday, Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. in KJ 201. "A whole cradle of opportunity is on display here in Washington," Baker added. "You won't find it anywhere else."

Hamilton celebrates Diwali

by Jack Cartwright '15
Social Media Editor

On November 14, believers in the Hindu religion, along with many other Hamilton students, celebrated the festival of lights—the all-important Hindu holiday of Diwali.

Diwali is considered to be the most important holiday in the Hindu tradition and marks the end of the financial year for businesses.

"Diwali is as important to us as Christmas is for Christians," Yan Zhong Zhen '13 explained.

It is typically celebrated each year in October or November and lasts for five days. Each day has a special significance. On the third day of Diwali, for example, observers pray for wealth for the following year.

Diwali is celebrated differently throughout India. In one tradition, Hindus celebrate the return of Lord Rama after his fourteen years of exile. Nevertheless, certain things are universal in the celebration of Diwali. For instance clay lamps are used by all Hindus, along with powder patterns in the form of lotuses signifying welcome. Additionally, it is typically celebrated with sweets treats, friends, family and fireworks. The main idea that transcends all celebrations is the he victory of good over evil.

"Diwali is one of my favorite events of the year because I'm able to share the epic story of Ramayana with the campus," said Luxsika Junboonta '13.

Sponsored by the South Asian Student Association and the Asian Cultural Society, many students packed the Annex to listen to this history of Diwali, witness the Cornell Bhangra Dance Team and eat a delicious dinner from Minar.

Puru Gautam '16, a Hindu student, was glad he was able to celebrate such an important holiday for his religion, particularly since it is his first year away from home. "I'm just glad people can learn about other cultures, particularly mine," said Gautam.

Eliza Kenney '15 enjoyed the experience as someone who is not of the Hindu faith. "I was so glad to see how the Hindu people celebrate Diwali, especially since I have never been a part of such a celebration before," said Kenney. "I think it's really great they included non-Hindus in this celebration as well."

BY ANNA MODEL '16

Students eat as they celebrate the Hindu holiday Diwali on Nov. 14.

Student Assembly Update

by Emily Moore '15
Production Editor

Changes to Honor Court and Judicial Board

With the upcoming election comes the opportunity for Student Assembly to amend the Constitution. Addressed this week were issues relating to the Honor Court and Judicial Board. Both entities have vacancies after elections that must be filled, but many students apply for those vacancies. To simplify this process, Student Assembly decided to move from an election process to an application process, with the respective boards deciding their membership for the next year. Student Assembly would then confirm those nominations at a meeting open to the whole campus where any student would be able to offer their opinion on the nominees. Because the campus vote is being eliminated, term limits would be opposed for board members.

Additionally, Student Assembly voted to extend Sexual Harassment and Misconduct Board policy which says that students cannot withdraw from Hamilton while their trials are ongoing to Honor Court and Judicial Board. This prevents students from transferring to other colleges without their record showing that they were expelled and thus avoiding repercussions. Student Assembly also added to the Constitution an idea discussed last year that students on probation (those with six to nine points) will be penalized in the housing lottery.

NESCAC Conference

Lia Parker-Belfer '16 represented Hamilton's Student Assembly over Thanksgiving break at a conference of NESCAC schools (and Colgate). Over two days, the attendees discussed topics including funding, student outreach, diversity and drinking culture. In an attempt to increase communication between schools, a Facebook group has been created where student government groups can consult with student government at peer institutions about issues they are facing. Another conference is being planned for the spring semester. Also, Colgate, as a neighboring institution, wants to meet with Hamilton students to discuss Greek life on campus.

Survey favors cozy chairs

by Julia Grace Brimelow '14
News Editor

The first floor of Sadove resembled a scene out of a children's tale: students playing their best Goldilocks, testing four chairs selected by Physical Plant as contenders for new dorm common room furniture.

"It's a fun thing for Hamilton to do for students," said Sam Wagner '14, emerging from the fourth and final chair in the selection series.

In the beginning of November, Physical Plant hosted this Furniture Survey in Sadove Living Room in the hope of soliciting student input in the selection of new lounge chairs for residence hall common rooms. These surveys are a new exercise for Physical Plant, which began using these outreach events to gather student feedback last spring in the midst of their search for new standard mattresses.

Each fall, following annual inventory of residence halls, Physical Plant determines which furniture pieces are in need of repair, disposal and replacement. Physical Plant also confers with The Office of Residential Life to best assess the needs of dorm lounges.

"After this last survey, we [were] able to surmise that the Residence Hall Lounges are utilized for more social and meeting spaces and that students are gravitating towards comfort seating in these spaces as opposed to more utilitarian furniture that is more appropriate for studying," said Jennifer Piren, Assistant Director for Physical Plant.

PHOTO BY ALICIA ZAK '15

To best address this change, Physical Plant began the process of searching for more modern, comfortable seating to replace aging common room furniture.

It was a natural decision to ask for feedback from students, says Piren. "I feel getting feedback on furniture from students is very important before purchasing. These spaces are your "home away from home."

The four furniture samples included in the survey represented a variety of styles, ranging from large, plushy chairs to more structured forms that had the added bonus of tablet attachments. The chairs were chosen because they presented different options relating to size, comfort and utility, giving students the widest selection to choose from.

"We wanted to give people options," said Physical Plant Student worker Tracy Mazerolle '15. "The choice will be very much based on student feedback surveys, which rate the chairs on comfort and physical appearance."

After the three days of conducting the survey, a clear winner emerged among the four options. Chair C, officially named "Portage," was the favorite. This cozy chair differed from the other options in its large footprint design and plush cushions, a clear departure from the harsh, scratchy butcher-block upholstery that currently covers most dorm lounge chairs.

Pending formal budgeting and the drafting of a furniture replacement plan, this lounge chair may grace lounges on both the dark side and light side as early as summer 2013.

Are you interested in a position as a newspaper editor?

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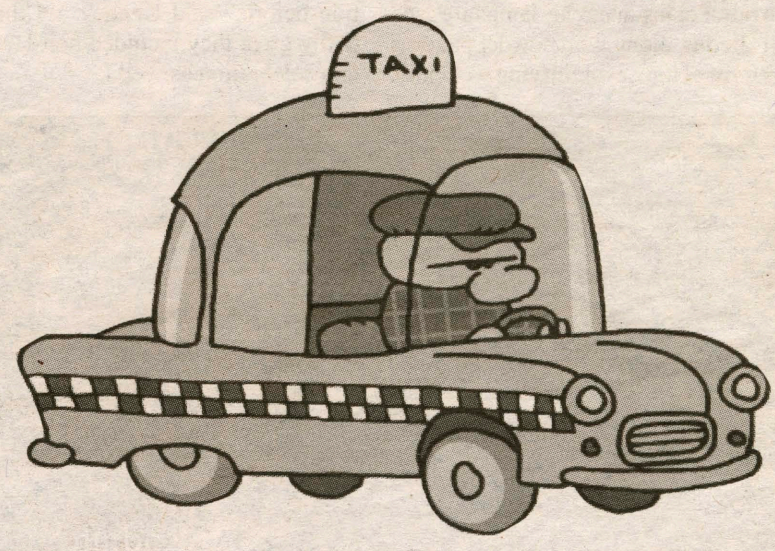

315-859-4000 Save this number. Save a life.

Save that number in your phone right now. Hamilton College Emergency Medical Services are available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. We need to remind ourselves as a community that the EMTs are always an option without consequences. This is important to remember especially in light of the fact that this semester has seen some of the most terrifying student conduct in recent memory.

Despite countless emails from Dean of Students Nancy Thompson, frequent articles and editorials in The Spectator and what has seemed like endless discussion about alcohol in the college community (and even the surrounding area), there seems to be little or no change on this campus in terms of substance abuse on campus. Frequent claims of "I would never do that" or "that would never happen to me," flutter around campus as if every student is untouchable. To tell the truth, this campus has been blessed with a combination of luck and an incredibly well-trained EMT team.

According to both Hamilton policy and, as of the passing of last year's 911 Good Samaritan Bill into New York State law, there are no legal repercussions when students call the EMTs for a friend or classmate in trouble. Thompson's latest e-mail entitled "Seeking Help" reminds students, "We never want you to hesitate to call for help out of fear of consequences. When students seek medical assistance for themselves or a friend, our focus is not on sanctioning those involved, but on making sure that this type of event doesn't happen again."

But there is only so much that everyone can say. The onus of the effort to change our culture will always lie with the students. Ultimately, it will not even be enough to improve communication between students and EMTs. If students continue this pattern of dangerous behaviors, then no amount of improved communication will shift the culture. It will take something more concrete; it will take the form of either reform or tragedy.

At the heart of every conversation we have had about alcohol on campus is the unspoken fear of a student death. Other schools have suffered through the loss of students due to alcohol and alcohol-related incidents. Only several weeks ago, Bates College lost a student due to injuries incurred while under the influence of alcohol. The possibility is not as far removed as we would like to think.

We need to open up campus-wide discussion again, not confining the dialogue to vandalism or EMT calls, but critically tackling the dangerous alcohol on campus at its source. We need to confront the problem head-on before it is too late. We don't want to publish any student obituaries.

The Spectator editorial represents the opinions of the majority of the editorial board. It is not necessarily unanimously agreed upon.

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Letters to the Editor Policy

The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. The Spectator reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

About Us

The Hamilton College Spectator, *publication number USPS 612-840, is published weekly by the Hamilton College Student Media Board while classes are in session. Subscriptions are $60 per year. For more information about subscriptions e-mail spec@hamilton.edu. Our offices are located on the second floor of the Sadove Student Center. The deadline for advertisements is Monday the week of publication. For further information, please e-mail specads@hamilton.edu.*

Finding freedom in 1s and 0s

Sean D. Henry-Smith
Opinion Contributor

As most people know, I have an ambivalent relationship with Facebook. Deactivating and reactivating my account has become a hobby of mine, sometimes disappearing and reappearing twice within a week. I am most motivated to remove myself from Facebook when the lines between the self I am known as the in the "real world" tangles with that of the self presented in the digital realm; basically, when I've gotten too "weird." The interests and various forms of media I would keep to myself on my not-quite-a-secret-but-never-spoken-of blog are suddenly posted on the walls of friends, usually to their dismay.

The liberty to manifest one's alter ego is a freedom Facebook and the real world does not allow. People are more likely to reveal the truest aspects of their hurt, humor, and oddities on a personal blog—used as an electronic diary—instead of their Facebook.

This is why digital communities are popular—no one has to know how the physical world analyzes you. You are free to display to the digital community the person you want to be, or wish you were.

On the Internet, one can bridge all of their interests in one place, finding a sense of wholesomeness often impossible to find in the real world. The opportunity to complete this digital self is a gift unto the identity confused – they can present any aspect of their self that is repressed in the physical world. There is confidence in the keyboard, and strength through the screen. One can indulge in the world of subcultures, free of judgment and harassment.

Raised in a Jamaican household with three different generational representations, I was surrounded by varying forms of media and interests: musicals with my mother, my father's Reggae, Spike Lee joints with my sister and whatever else I came across, either from friends, or on my own. As I researched further, I found connections between metal and jazz, fashion and food, black and white movies with the sound replaced by Max Roach songs and fashion; unfortunately, I was unable to communicate my newfound passions with most people I knew.

But I found freedom on the Web—I was allowed, even encouraged, to be weird. Math Rock and weddings, artisan sandwiches and domesticating foxes, angsty poems and Wes Anderson films—all of the things that have influenced me greatly, and all of the random bits of knowledge I may never be able to use, suddenly become valuable.

The sense of solidarity provided by the union of a dislocated community that has found an electronic residence is comforting in a way other friendships sometimes cannot provide. The communities I found online were the only place I could vocalize and discover more about these topics comfortably. We were suddenly acceptable to people that we could only connect to via screens URLs.

People with interests askew of pop culture are often accused of being exclusive and "hipsters." But this isn't a matter of exclusivity, or taking interest in things most others have no idea exists to feel more intelligent, or important than others. The art, music, films and literature are available to everyone, but few are willing to spend the time to discover them, or even care that they exist.

The Internet is a safe haven to these interests and subcultures, providing a place to facilitate discussion with fellow fans and critics, and a place to document a history of these minor movements. Knowing that somewhere, there is a community that appreciates my weird interests and values my digital performance grants me a great confidence. I'll probably deactivate my Facebook for a week or so, though.

Thumbs Up

Safe Drinking Poster Campaign: Our suggestion: "KEEP CALM AND DRINK WATER OFF AND ON."

Culinary Society's "The World Ends in 24 Days" email: If you're preparing a rotisserie chicken in the Sadove basement, things could go wrong a lot sooner.

"Money and God" email from IVCF: Solve the analogy. Money is to God as Jitney is to Village Tavern.

Thumbs Down

Confusing Ted and Midnight in Paris double feature: You know what Woody Allen always said, "I'd never join a club that would allow a person like Seth Macfarlane to become a member."

Insanity For All hosted by Dave Thompson: We're hosting an Insanity For Most where we write essays and forget to sleep instead of partaking in an intensive 90 day fitness program.

Guerilla Post It Project in KJ: Some of my dirtiest secrets went down in KJ, too... No really, I lost my Moleskine somewhere in there last week!

Who Cares?

Hamilton Compliments: We've been giving Thumbs Up where Thumbs Up are due for months.

Apply to Be a Spectator Editor: Or be like us and just publish all your grievances in three columns and let someone else fix the typos.

Cyber Monday: The hottest day of the week since Chair Massage Tuesday.

by Wynn Van Dusen '15 and Claire Carusillo '13

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

Letter to the Editor

To the Selection Committee for the Sacerdote Great Names Series and the Administration of Hamilton College:

I am writing to express my disappointment in the lack of organization and commitment Hamilton College has shown toward the Sacerdote Great Names Series. The College's website describes the Great Names Series as an ongoing series which "brings to campus national and international leaders in government, business, science and the arts." Since the Series' inaugural speaker in 1996, the Sacerdote Great Names Series has brought 18 speakers to campus. The committee brought former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to campus in the fall of 2010, but since then the committee has not scheduled a Great Names speaker.

In the spring of 2012, the Selection Committee sent an email informing the Hamilton community that the committee had failed to secure a speaker for the 2011-2012 academic year. The email went on to state that the committee would "begin pursuing options for the fall semester. The money saved from not having a speaker in 2011-12 will be combined with the additional income available in the next fiscal year, which will provide additional options for the committee." With less than four weeks left in the fall semester, no announcement of a confirmed speaker has been made. What 'additional' options were pursued by the committee for this semester? Why has the committee remained silent about its efforts to bring a speaker to campus this semester as it promised nine months ago?

The committee's failure to secure a speaker for this semester is an injustice to current Hamilton freshmen and sophomores, as well as junior January Admits and transfers, who have never had the opportunity to experience of the Sacerdote Great Names Series.

Hamilton College continues to promote the Sacerdote Great Names Series as ongoing, despite a speaker not being brought to campus in over two years. This misrepresentation to parents and prospective students is a breach of Hamilton College's integrity. If the Great Names Series has been suspended or cancelled it is in the best interest of the College to announce such a decision to the Hamilton community.

If Hamilton College does plan on continuing the Series, information on the next speaker or the reasons the committee failed to schedule a speaker should be made public to the Hamilton community.

Furthermore, I hope the Great Names Series will return to its stated mission of bringing to campus leaders in the fields of "government, business, science, and the arts." With the exception of revered news anchor Tom Brokaw, and Holocaust survivor and acclaimed writer Elie Wiesel, every Great Names Series speaker has either been a prominent politician, diplomat, musician, or comedian. Not once in its history has the Sacerdote Great Names Series brought a speaker with a scientific background to campus, despite its stated commitment to do so. If Hamilton College is fully committed to the Sacerdote Great Names Series I implore the selection committee to host a speaker from the scientific community. For example, Neil deGrasse Tyson, the astrophysicist and director of the Hayden Planetarium would be an excellent candidate, as he has been widely considered the next Carl Sagan.

Finally, I wish to commend Hamilton College and the Selection Committee for the Great Names speakers it has brought to campus in the past. It is imperative that Hamilton College remains committed to the Sacerdote Great Names Series. Hopefully, a suitable speaker will be found soon. If the selection committee scheduled Great Names speakers a few years in advance, these long gaps between speakers could be avoided. A clear schedule would ensure that the Sacerdote Great Names Series would return to being an annual Hamilton tradition.

—Jake London '14

Hamilton Compliments

by Cailin Chang '13
Opinion Contrubutor

Is it possible to be addicted to a Facebook group? For a majority of the Hamilton community, the answer is yes.

I have always believed that Hamilton students, faculty and administrators are very kind people. It is the special quality that makes us stand apart from other colleges. What I find hard to believe, though, is how students at a small college like Hamilton still do not greet each other with a simple "hi."

Last fall, with the help of three other students, I created the "Just Say 'Hi'" campaign. We asked students to sign a pledge that stated: "I pledge to 'Just Say Hi' to all familiar faces on campus." By signing the pledge, students received a free mug or a free cake pop.

Was the campaign successful? Yes and no. Students continued to not greet each other, whether they recognized them or not. However, the point of a campaign is to raise awareness, which is what "Just Say 'Hi'" accomplished. The campaign raised awareness among some of the students, and that alone was already a great first step.

Fast forward to a year later: the Thursday right before this past Thanksgiving break.

I stumbled upon a Facebook page titled "Hamilton Compliments." The about section of the page stated: "Everyone on the hill could always use a pick me up and it's not always easy to come out and say it but here you can. Inbox a compliment about a person and we'll post it anonymously for you. Being nice has never been so un-creepy before!"

On this Facebook page, if you wanted to compliment someone on campus, all you had to do was message "Hamilton Compliments" your compliment, and they would post it anonymously for you.

According to the creator, the idea was not something that he or she came up with. Instead, he or she was scanning "In the 'Cac" and read a blurb about Trinity College's own "Trinity Compliments." The creator for Hamilton Compliments immediately created a page for Hamilton simply because he or she wanted to be the person to do it. The group was created on Thursday, Nov.15 at 6 p.m. and by 8 p.m., the time I "liked" the "Hamilton Compliments" page, there was already some buzz around on my Facebook Newsfeed from other students. By the 19th, the page had already received 1000 likes, which is almost 2/3 of the 1800 students at Hamilton. However, not only students submitted posts. Parents, faculty and even administrators joined in and anonymously left genuine messages.

Shoichi Sato '13, one student out of the several who received compliments, remarked that he was taken aback with his compliment. "I honestly didn't think that I was going to receive one because I've only known most of the current students at Hamilton for a year or two, and so I didn't think I made enough impact on a person to warrant a compliment. It feels really good to know that someone values your presence on campus."

When asked if he wanted to be informed of who had written his compliment, he replied, "I would prefer to not know. I like the whole anonymous factor of the page. It keeps things interesting."

So how does this relate to the "Just Say 'Hi'" campaign? Although the intention of the creator was not to "change campus culture," that is exactly what the page is doing. "Hamilton Compliments" shows exactly how nice students are and students are greeting each other in their own way saying "Hi" behind a computer screen.

Again, I don't expect the behaviors of the Hamilton community to change 180° anytime soon. I think "Hamilton Compliments" is a step in the right direction of bringing this community together, especially with all the drama from this past semester. I never could have foreseen how many students were willing to give each other so much heartfelt appreciation, and I don't think anyone else could have imagined it, either. That is what makes "Hamilton Compliments" so special: it publicly displays the kindness of our community.

I want the Facebook page to grow and continue to be successful, and for more students, faculty, and administrators to join in. What I would like to see in the future, though, is for the "complimenters" to meet face-to-face with those they have complimented to tell them just how special that person is to them.

Heroin incident is without larger implications

by Brendon Kaufman '15
Opinion Columnist

It was an ordinary Wednesday. Almost too ordinary. I crept down the stairs of Christian A. Johnson Hall to turn in my math assignment, completely unaware of the horrors to come. As I waited to ask one last question, I thumbed through a few emails, like usual. Massage Chair Tuesday, Meditation Club, those obnoxious Quiz Bowl emails, you name it. No one could have predicted what would come next.

It was an email from each of my parents with links to reputable New York City news sources detailing a heroin arrest on-campus from the night before. My jaw dropped and my mind began to race. Is this what Hamilton College is? Is there a drug culture I am just not aware of? I quickly calmed down, realizing that even though this single event may have been alarming for a moment, it was no indicator of a campus-wide problem. Noticing that both students were thankfully in good health, I saw that it wasn't as much of a horror story as it could have been. Rather, it was just a somewhat atypical day in normal college life.

Colleges have long represented an important transition period in the American life. Freshly graduated from high school and often away from home for the first time, students come to college more open-minded. This reduced inhibition leads to experimentation that takes place in the classroom, in extracurriculars and, of course, in social life. College is often a haven for behaviors that wouldn't have taken place close to home and are often sex or drug related. Hamilton College represents an approximate stock image of the American college experience in this sense.

Although I have not explored every nook and cranny of Hamilton College, I believe that I have been able to get a pretty good handle on the types of weekend activities that students engage in. By talking to friends and experiencing things first-hand, I've found our small campus is not too hard to figure out. Alcohol and marijuana are aplenty. Cocaine and a few other similarly potent friends creep around. Anything else is hard to come by. I just described Hamilton College's drug scene and, you guessed it, that of almost any other American college out there.

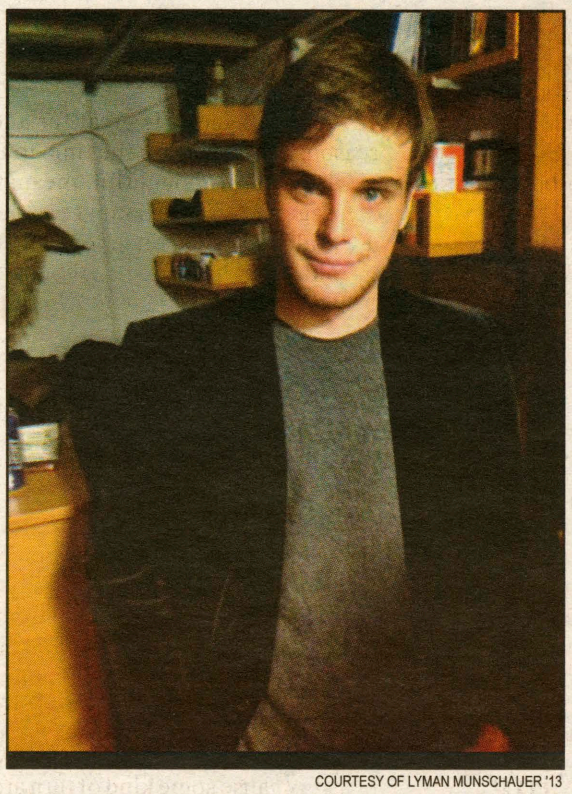
Unfortunately, when something like this happens, Hamilton College's name is attached to the incident. To outsiders and the general population who might read something like *People* magazine where the news most recently appeared, the previously unknown Hamilton College becomes "that school with heroin" rather than "that little Ivy." Planted in those minds is a small blemish that can only be erased with time. To others, one heroin arrest is no big surprise. Even though potentially lethal drugs are in no way visible on our campus or probably most others, the nature of the American college experience almost guarantees some, even if incredibly infrequent, appearances of these drugs on campus. It is certainly not preferable, but it shouldn't come as a shock either. Drugs are here, but not more than at any other school. Heck, we're not even listed on *The Daily Beast's* "Thirty Druggiest Colleges." Sure, Hamilton has a drinking problem and is gladly addressing it. However, Hamilton doesn't have a heroin problem.

Hamilton College is not and will not be defined by a single heroin arrest or the actions of what I am almost certain come from a small population on this campus. Hamilton College is defined by the behavior of the citizens of its community which are many things other than hardcore druggies. We are smart. We are opinionated. We drink sometimes. We are not the best athletes in the country. We do not do hardcore drugs. These are generalizations that aren't necessarily true about any given person at Hamilton, but can certainly be applied to our general population.

Thankfully, the reaction from both the campus and the administration so far has seemed to echo these sentiments. Although it might have caused buzz for a day or two, the campus voice was relatively silent on the topic after this. I saw but one Facebook post concerning it. Appearances of the streaking team are much more notorious. And as for Hamilton's administration? All we've seen so far was a message from Nancy Thompson which outlined the protocol for contacting medics about dangerous situations involving drugs and alcohol. She also emphasized the importance of health and safety. There's another thing. We are healthy. We are safe. In my opinion, Hamilton has its priorities in line.

Bachelor and Bachelorette

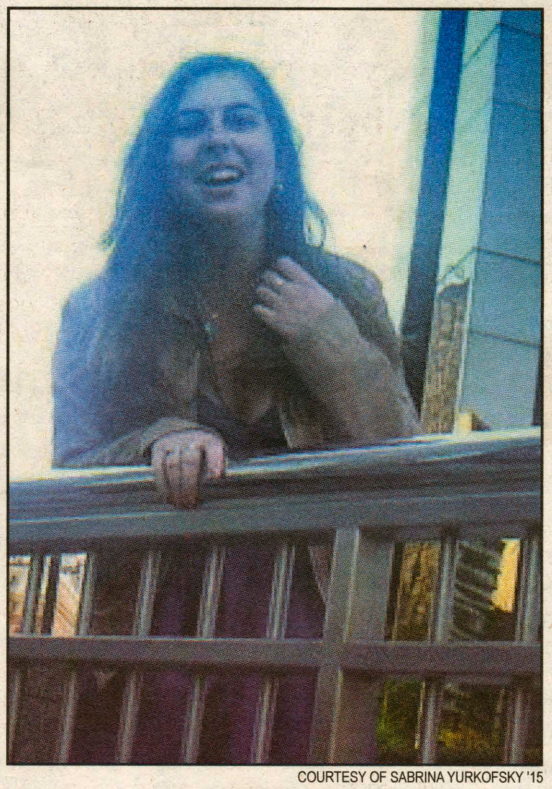
Lyman Munschauer '13



COURTESY OF LYMAN MUNSCHAUER '13

Hometown: *Buffalo, NY.*
Home on Campus: *Babbitt 24.*
Major: *Geology.*
Turn On? *Beautiful eyes.*
Turn Off? *Smoking.*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *Saunders because it's kind of a secret but it impresses the ladies.*
Lights on or lights off? *Her choice.*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *Main Cain and Ke$ha.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *"Good to the last drop."*
What TV genre best describes you? *A soap opera.*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *While watching the Olympics I asked, "Do you want to go for the gold?"*
What's your type? *Athletic, nice, low-maintenance and likes the outdoors.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Cheese, hot sauce and* Breaking Amish.
If you were any social space, what would it be? *Major Faculty Apartment.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *Science center 1033.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *Fine Lettuce Tasting Club.*
What's your spirit animal and why? *Lion, but I have been told I am a mosquito.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *To have my Campo Uniform back.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Trivia night...makes Tuesday night drinking respectable.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Hamilton Compliments. Grow a pair and say it to my face.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Virginia Walsh ;)*
What would your perfect date be? *Me cooking dinner. I love to cook.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *6 items from 6 different fraternities or sororities.*

Sabrina Yurkofsky '15



COURTESY OF SABRINA YURKOFSKY '15

Hometown: *Wayland, MA.*
Home on Campus: *The Kirk.*
Major: *Interdisciplinary between Creative Writing and CNMS.*
Relationship status: *Single and Mingling.*
Turn On? *Sorkinisms.*
Turn Off? *Outies.*
Lights on or lights off? *Clap lights.*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *Cher and Ricky Martin. It just feels right.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *Home of the Whopper.*
What movie genre best describes you? *Black Comedy. But like* Teeth, *not* Madea.
What's the worst pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *My pharmacist once leered and said, 'See you next month' as he handed me the pill. That wasn't awesome.*
If you could have any super power, what would it be and why? *What does Cory Booker have? I want that.*
What's your type? *Gay, but doesn't know it yet.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *Joanie's Open Hour.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *IPod,* The Onion, *and Reese's Pieces.*
If you were a food, which would you be and why? *Honeydew melon. I'm sweet and delightful!*
If you could get rid of one group on campus, what would it be? The Daily Bull, *for obvious reasons.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *Duelly Noted. See next question for why.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Michael Dyer. Obviously.*
What would you say is your best feature or quality? *I haven't had a cavity in a year.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Christmas lights in dorms!!*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Penicillin.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Dolphins.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *Geoffrey, the hedgehog puppet.*
What would your perfect date be? *It has to end with Jeremy Renner buying me a puppy.*

Compliments bring out the best in students

by Jill Chipman '14
Feautres Writer

If you've been on Facebook in the past two weeks, you've probably noticed the storm of posts to the newest Hamilton creation, "Hamilton Compliments." While the Hamilton creator is still unknown, he or she was inspired by a similar creation at Trinity. A number of colleges and universities have similar pages as well. The creator was inspired by these kind actions as well as actions at PossePlus retreats. "At the PossePlus Retreats they have a similar idea of 'warm fuzzies' and to this day I still look at the ones people wrote for me and smile. Creating a way for people to be nice to each other just seemed like a no-brainer to me," said the creator of Hamilton Compliments who wishes to remain anonymous.

> "To the EMTs [...]: Thank you for being our heroes. Your dedication and compassion inspire us."

The idea behind the page is rather simple. Anyone who wishes to compliment a member of the Hamilton community can do so annoynmously by messaging the creator of the page with the name of the person and the compliment. The compliments are then approved and posted to the page for everyone to see. The page boasts: "Being nice has never been so un-creepy before!"

> "Chaise LaDousa, you're the funniest/ best professor ever."

As of this publication, the page has about 1,200 likes which includes several alumni and staff members. There are also over 2,500 compliments posted to the site so far. "I never expected 20 invites to my friends to become 200 likes in 6 hours. It exploded in a way I never expected and it's been nothing but encouraging," the creator said. Some of the compliments are short one-sentence lines while others are paragraphs letting members of the Hamilton community know how appreciated they are. People can write compliments to anyone they wish, from faculty, teams or dorms. There have been several shout outs to Dean Thompson regarding her leadership in the community as well as staff members for their service to the campus. "The fact that Nancy Thompson's compliments are the most popular on the page speaks to that as well - people seem to respect, admire and revere her passion and hard work," the creator says.

The idea behind the page is to build a greater sense of cohesiveness among the Hamilton community. As one alumni phrased it "This is a complete 360 from Juicy Campus."

While no longer active, Juicy Campus, and sites like it, post gossip that occurs on the campus and often alienate or mock individual students. Hamilton Compliments instead offers praise and encouragement to students who make the Hamilton campus what it is.

Leah Berryhill '13 likes the idea of Hamilton Compliments and echoed the alumni's statement by saying "I think it's a great way to boost morale at Hamilton".

Kathleen Herlihy '14 echoes Berryhill by noting "I think it is a great testament to what makes Hamilton so special. The fact that so many students went out of their way to express how much they care for one another really says something about the love and support we have in our community."

> "Dr: Endsley: You are a beautiful person. Your spoken word poems make me cry. I am so sad you are leaving."

The great thing about the project is that the compliments remain anonymous which makes it possible for a student to compliment another that he or she may not know that well but know about and want to let that other student know.

"I think the format - anonymous, written messages - is great for a lot of reasons. You can take the time to think up the kind of thoughtful, meaningful message that can be hard to produce in the middle of a conversation. And truth be told, I feel like there's a taboo on being overly nice in person - or if there isn't, we're all afraid that there is. The anonymity allows us to tell our friends how much you value them without fear of coming across as creepy. And I think the popularity of the page could actually make people less afraid to be so nice in person. If they see how many people appreciate the compliments they've written, they'll probably be more likely to share their kind thoughts on a day to day basis," said Cooper Creagan '13.

> "To the Women's hockey team: #loyalty."

As long as students continue to contribute, Hamilton Compliments should become a permanent fixture for students.

"My biggest hope now is that we'll possibly cause some kind of turn around on campus for the better because of the page. When I started I just thought it'd be all fun but now because of all the people who have written I think it's possible for it to become something even bigger and more amazing," said the creator.

HEAG's Corner: Sandy's friend, the Cheeseburger

by Risa Nagel '16
Features Contributor

What if I told you that the cheeseburger you had for lunch did more than tighten your jeans and harm your heart? What if it caused the devastating disaster of a hurricane that flooded the northeast up to its skyscrapers? That's right. America's addiction to meat could be the reason behind the vicious Hurricane Sandy, and a significant contributor to future climate change disasters as well.

Global warming is no longer debatable. Among scientists, it is now considered to be proven fact. Also proven are the various effects that climbing temperatures will be sure to bring, like the melting of Arctic ice and the rise of sea level. But that is not all. As the planet warms, oceans warm as well, increasing the amount of water vapor escaping into the atmosphere. Since water vapor fuels tropical storms, warmer-than-usual oceans are the perfect breeding ground for high intensity "superstorms", such as the infamous Sandy.

But how does that burger play into all of this?

Carbon dioxide, the greenhouse gas plaguing our atmosphere, is a major byproduct of the livestock industry. Animal farming companies commonly use slash-and-burn methods to inexpensively clear land of dense vegetation, later developing these scorched regions into grazing areas for cattle. But burning down trees releases high amounts of carbon dioxide. Also, forests sequester carbon from the atmosphere, but when forests are destroyed, they are no longer a carbon sink. Companies' expansion of cattle pastures destroys the Earth's air-purifying vegetation at a time when carbon clouds the sky, leaving us in desperate need of some natural cleansing.

IS MY CHEESEBURGER CAUSING GLOBAL WARMING?
Find out how food choices affect climate change
Earth Day
April 22nd - Lunchtime
LOW CARBON DIET DAY
1.BP.BLOGSPOT.COM

But carbon is not the only pollutant; in fact, it's not even the most dangerous one. Livestock also release massive amounts of methane and nitrous oxide, which have 23 and 296 times the potency of carbon dioxide, respectively. In fact, in 2010, cattle accounted for 31 million tons of methane emissions in the United States, while passenger vehicles, the prime example of everyday pollution, only emitted 1onemillion tons. Similarly nitrous oxide emissions from factory farms were nine million tons greater than those from automobiles ("Inventory"). These nasty greenhouse gases are simply the consequence of animals' natural biological processes: methane results from livestock's digestion and nitrous oxide from their excrement. However, the immense quantity of animals necessary to feed America's carnivorous tendency is the true problem.

Meat eaters certainly accelerate global warming, even more so than gas guzzling car owners. By switching to a hybrid, car owners would reduce their carbon footprint by one ton per year, but if an omnivore switched to a vegan diet, that person would annually reduce their carbon emissions by 1.5 tons.

Alas, most people will not give up their Mickey D's double bacon cheeseburgers, and suddenly convert to the appealingly ecological, not to mention incredibly healthy, vegan lifestyle. It would be just as if those unfortunate souls still driving a Hummer were to happily drop 20 thousand bucks on a neat, new Prius. Not impossible, but definitely improbable. A gradual transition is a probable solution though. If every American gave up one serving of chicken per week, which means just one veg-friendly meal every seven days, it would save the same amount of carbon dioxide as if 500,000 cars were taken off the road. That is certainly doable.

As global warming rears its sweltering head, we must realize Sandy is simply the beginning. Stronger storms are surely impending, dipping their toes in the heating waters. At this point climate change cannot be ceased, but it can be slowed. For our long term stability, America must finally accept that meat is neither a sustainable nor intelligent food choice. And since it's the food we eat that's furthering this phenomenon, the future of our society relies on our own personal choices. I for one know that my menu will never include Sandy's friend, the cheeseburger.

WHCL CORNER

Show Profile: *What is Hip*

Monday's, 12 p.m.
with DJ's
Mike Howard
and
Pete Laciano

Sounds like:

Every Monday at noon, join DJ How and Pete for an eclectic mix of whatever-the-hell we feel like playing. Inspired by the eponymous single by original hipsters, Tower of Power, our show will get your week MOVING just like TOP did for your dad back in the sumptuous 70s.

Expect to hear:

Ride out your lows with Otis Redding's blues, dance your shoes to scraps with LCD Soundsystem, ball so hard with Kanye West, sing your voice away with Frank Ocean, get your Radio Cure with Wilco, and rock out to Radiohead. Being hip is hard, listening to good music doesn't have to be.

What song do you love (or love to hate) in the Diner Jukebox?

R. Kelly's Ignition (Remix)

This song goes out to…

Our girlll Liz Amster!

3-5 Albums or Songs you can expect to hear:

1. "The Fall" by Rhye

2. "Losing My Edge" by LCD Soundsystem

3. "Forrest Gump" by Frank Ocean

4. "Countdown" by Beyonce

5. "In Your Eyes" by Grizzly Bear

Coffeehouse Spotlight: Emma Wilkinson '16

by Kaitlin McCabe '16
Arts & Entertainment Contributor

Everyone enjoys music. From having a favorite band to a favorite genre, people constantly surround themselves with sounds that they love.

Yet, for some people, music is more than an interest. It is a passion, a driving force in their very existence. Singer-songwriter Emma Wilkinson'16, for example, lives through music.

"It is so important to me," she says. "It is me. I put my life, love, anger, anguish, elation—I put everything into my songs, and it feels so good."

Music has been a major part of Wilkinson's life since she was young. Between the ages of seven and fourteen, she performed in New York City's Metropolitan Opera, a rare opportunity that allowed her to experience professional vocal training and sing in front of audiences of thousands.

Around this time, she also began to take guitar and piano lessons. At this point in her childhood, Emma says, her love of music developed from admiration to personal dedication; as she learned how to play the guitar, she found that through music, she could express emotions and thoughts. This discovery inspired her to write her own lyrics and set them to her own melodies.

When asked about her beginnings as a lyricist, she humorously explains, "I was mad at my 'boyfriend', and I wanted to write a song about him and why he didn't deserve me anymore."

Wilkinson continued to educate herself in the world of music by listening to the songs of the strong female musicians she came to idolize. Citing Ingrid Michaelson, Joni Mitchell, Carole King, Bonnie Raitt and Tracey Chapman as her musical influences, Emma developed her own voice through her acoustic-based songs.

PHOTO COURTESY OF EMMA WILKINSON

Wilkinson performed at the Metropolitan Opera in NYC for seven years.

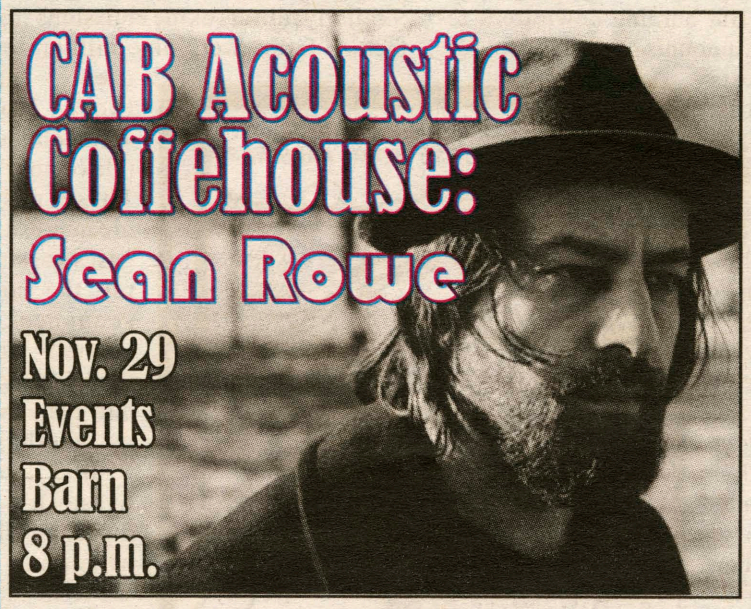
"My music is just a way for me to vent," she says. "When I am delighted or melancholy, I'll write a song. When I want to remind myself of what is important. When I want to show my love for a great friend. When I can't stop thinking about something, I usually just write a song about it…[It's the] best way to get it out."

Above anything else, Emma's music is undoubtedly relatable. With topics ranging from boyfriends and breakups ("Something So Cruel") to insecurity and self-empowerment ("Stop Your Crying"), Wilkinson's songs tell stories of personal struggles and realizations to which anyone can feel a connection.

While Wilkinson does not currently possess aspirations to pursue a career in music, her love for it remains a pivotal force in her time at Hamilton College.

Having already played her music at previous Open Mic Nights and coffeehouses, Wilkinson's next performance will be Thursday, December 6th at the Fillius Events Barn Dinner Party. She also has her original songs on a personal page on YouTube (http://www.youtube.com/joyemmaa).

A&E weekly schedule



The Normal Heart
Friday, Nov. 30
8 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 1
List Arts Center 106
2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Special K Invitational
Friday, Nov.30
The Chapel
8 p.m.

CAB Movies Presents:

Ted

KJ Aud
Friday
Nov.30

Midnight in Paris

Lester Biggs and the Robber Barons: homegrown rock and roll

by Nathaniel Livingston '14
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT CONTRIBUTOR

PHOTO COURTESY OF DAN KNISHKOWY '13

Frontman Dan Knishkowy leads Lester Biggs and the Robber Barons through rock gems at a Babbitt Pavilion gig.

You are standing outside of the Sadove Student Center. It is a cold and unforgiving November evening in the middle of upstate New York, where the wind blows with a vengeance over the cusp of College Hill, where the small liberal arts college that you attend resides. It's a Thursday night and you aren't expecting a night unlike any others, nothing out of the ordinary, just a drink or two in the ELS basement where the women's field hockey team and the men's baseball team decided to have a party.

But once you descend those dungeon-like stairs, you become aware of a sound you are not used to on campus: live music. No, it is not the sterile sounds of "Levels" by Avicii or the autotuned croon of Kesha you are hearing, it's much too *alive* to be anything emanating from a speaker box. This is amplifier music. This is the sound of a voice through a microphone. This is the sound of Lester Biggs and the Robber Barons playing music. Live music.

The music is best described as rock & roll. The band has been known to cover standards such as "The Weight," "You Can't Always Get What You Want," and "Johnny B Goode." And with such an eclectic and talented line up, every song they do is explored to its full potential. Ravi Jariwala '13 will turn those metal strings into electric tentacles of ecstasy, and Bret Turner '13's smooth responds with a solo tinged with passion and the E Street Band flavor. A sharp wailing wheeze indicates that Matt Sherman has started breathing into his harmonica. Dan Knishkowy '13 is the band's leader and main singer. The energy he brings keeps the whole band together and his vocals emanate straight from the soul. It's almost as if The Tallest Man on Earth went and started a rock band. And when Chelsea Wahl '13 joins her beautiful voice to the chorus, the band reaches its full potential. Beneath it all, drummer Dave Schwartz '13 keeps the beat, accentuating the movement of the music with cymbals and tom rolls, while Ian Rothenberg '16 provides the pulsating rhythm of the bass.

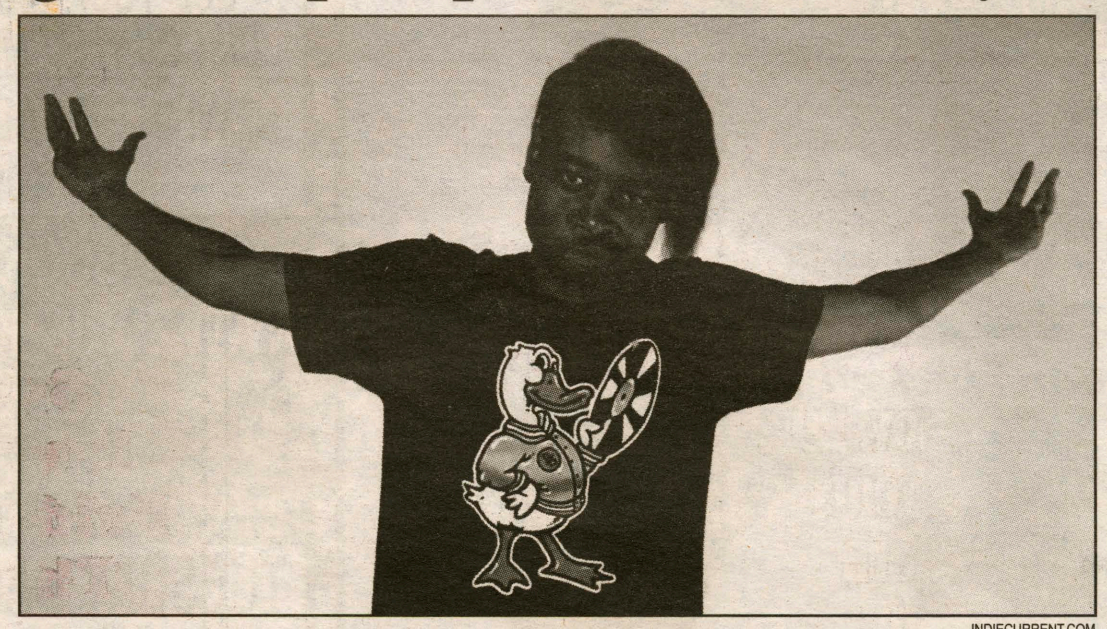
Lester Biggs and the Robber Barons aren't about making a name for the band. There are no aspirations or pretensions to stardom. The eclectic nature of the band allows each member to perform outside of his or her usual musical context. Three of the members are in Jazz band, Dan is a solo musician, Chelsea is the musical coordinator for Special K, and Dave Schwartz is also a DJ. Each member brings their own expertise to the table.

The band is ultimately out there to have a good time and provide the College with something it needs—live music performed by student musicians. It's music that is fun—live music you don't come see to get credit for class. It is this kind of student initiative that adds life and originality to any late night event, inspiring the audience with music.

This Friday, Nov. 30, the band will be playing in the Woollcott Co-op basement at 11 p.m. Not as dark and strange as the ELS basement, the Co-op basement is a great, intimate space to experience the band. If you have never heard the band before, consider what a dose of live music could do for your typical weekend experience.

IMF bringing indie hip-hop sensation Danny Brown to Barn

by Jack McManus '13
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR



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Danny Brown, performing December 8th in the Barn, reps his labelmates Duck Sauce.

Continuing their mission to attract the most exciting up-and-coming musical acts to our snowy rural campus, the Independent Music Fund just announced rapper Danny Brown as the headliner for their first event of the year, taking place the evening of Saturday, Dec. 8 in the rave-tested Fillius Events Barn. Hailing from Detroit, Brown's alternative sensibilities and unconventional style have established him as a leader amongst today's crop of blog-approved hip hop innovators, and he's reached mass audiences recently on high-profile tours with Kendrick Lamar, Childish Gambino, A$AP Rocky, Das Racist, Schoolboy Q and many others. Chip Sinton '13 will make his Barn debut DJing as F-CK+YR+AESTHETICSII to open the show.

After achieving moderate, local success with his group Rese'vor Dogs in the early 2000s, Brown released his first mixtape *Detroit State of Mind* in 2007 and his first full length album *The Hybrid* in 2010. This album first sparked the 31-year-old rapper's run in the spotlight, as DJs and hardcore hip-hop fans were intrigued by his frantic flow and unconventional whiny, high-pitched vocals. Many music critics have spoken out in favor of Brown's unusual sound as well, commending him for having the courage to embrace his weirdness rather than try to change himself to fit hip hop's often rigid conventions. This resistance to norms has become one of Brown's trademarks—in 2010 he missed out on a record deal with 50 Cent's G-Unit records simply because he refused to stop wearing skinny jeans and vintage t-shirts on stage.

In hindsight, Brown's partnership with G-Unit probably wouldn't have worked out. With his asymmetrical haircut, tight clothing and purposefully bizarre attitude, he doesn't fit the gangsta mold at all. After self-releasing *The Hybrid,* Brown found a musical home on the well-known DJ A-Trak's Fools Gold label, joining the company of dance wizards Chromeo, Laidback Luke, Trackademics and Duck Sauce, as well as Fool's Gold-related rappers like Lil B, Kid Sister and Kid Cudi. In this new creative environment Brown has been able to develop his musical taste for British Grime, prog-rock inspired mindset and caustic humor with full support from his label and growing audience. His new connections have also opened the doors for high-profile collaborations, as he's appeared on tracks with Raekwon, Pusha T, Big Sean, Childish Gambino, El-P, Mr. Muthafckin' eXquire, Flosstradamus, CyHi the Prynce, J. Dilla and label boss A-Trak.

In the summer of 2011 Brown released his second official album *XXX,* offering it as a free download on his website before re-releasing it this past March on iTunes with three extra tracks. The album was acclaimed by critics like his earlier work, with the music magazine *Spin* naming it the top hip-hop album of 2011 and *Pitchfork* ranking it at No. 19 on their top albums of the year list. Brown also made a surprise appearance during Childish Gambino's anticipated performance at this year's Coachella Music Festival, spitting a verse on a remix of Gambino's "You Know Me" alongside Kendrick Lamar.

With his career still young and his stock rising, the IMF show next weekend may be our last chance to catch Danny Brown in such an intimate environment before he moves on to larger venues like former IMF acts Band of Horses, Yeasayer, Beach House and The New Pornographers have since appearing on campus. It also may be the only time you'll hear the word "swag" used in its appropriate context all year, so that's not to be missed.

Student body president and vice president

Dear Hamilton Student Body,

Student Assembly's President and Vice President lead the council in advocating for fellow students, and both communicate regularly with the administrative leaders for student affairs. The administration consults SA often times to "get the student's opinion" on potential projects and policy amendments; and while we are only two people, we believe we are capable and deserving representatives of Hamilton students. Anthony is highly involved and revered on campus, you've probably seen him around. A member of Miami Posse 2, he immersed himself in Hamilton right from the start. He was elected an SA representative his freshman year, chairs SA's Cultural Affairs Committee, and is a proud member and Social Chair of Delta Chi. Sarah has also involved herself in many of the opportunities Hamilton has to offer. Fresh from America's heartland, Iowa, Sarah is a varsity swimmer, is President of College Republicans and a proud member of Alpha Theta Chi. Although we may not represent your interests precisely, we guarantee that we will address your concerns expediently, fairly, and creatively to ensure that Student Assembly is productive voice for students on this campus. It would be our honor to receive your vote and to represent you.

Best,

Anthony Jackson and Sarah Larson

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The Career Center Peer Advisors are students like you who have been trained to critique cover letters and resumes. Whether you have never written a resume or you desire a proof-reading of your final draft, PAs are available during both day and evening hours to meet with you one-on-one. Upon referral from a professional counselor PA's are trained to assist with learning how to network, how to help students to begin to look for career-related experience(s), and can offer advice on how to prepare for basic interviews.

Who are the Career Center Peer Advisors?

Kim Bogardus '14 is biochemistry major from Syracuse, New York. Last year she worked as a student athletic trainer and did research over the summer in the chemistry department with Professor Cotten. When not advising students in the Career Center, she works as a chemistry TA and peer tutor. She loves SU basketball, NYC, and hopes to pursue a career in medical research.

JuliaGrace Brimelow '14 is a Junior at Hamilton pursuing a degree in History. On campus, she serves as Lecture Chair for the Emerson Literary Society and News Editor for The Spectator. She was also an Orientation Leader for incoming transfer students last August. Originally from Greenwich, CT, Julia spent last summer in New York City interning for CBSNewYork.com, the umbrella website for CBS Radio NY, which includes 1010WINS, WCBS 880 and WFAN.

Cailin Chang '13 is a Chinese major and a Communication minor. In addition to being a Peer Advisor at the Career Center, she is also the Co-Chair of CAB and a Lab Consultant at ITS. When she isn't running around campus, she likes to sit down with a nice cup of hot cider or tea and chat or play a good game of pool. Past internship experiences include: VH1's Top 20 Video Countdown and Elvis Duran and the Morning Show.

Mihai Dohotaru '13 is a senior from Bucharest, Romania majoring in Econ and Math. On campus he enjoys running with the Track Team, mentoring first year multicultural students, and furthering Hamilton's philanthropy goals through the HALT program. Mihai fell in love with New York during Professor Balkan's NYC Program, during which he interned in Global Research at Bank of America Merrill Lynch, and decided to go back this summer to intern with the Investment Banking Division at UBS. In his free time he enjoys hiking and skiing.

Elly Field '13 is a double major in Sociology and Math. While not writing her thesis or working at the Career Center, she keeps herself busy with plenty of other activities; a member of the Mock Trial Team, SAVES, and the Women's Rugby Team here on the hill. She is also a Spanish teaching volunteer at Clinton Elementary with a class of first graders. After graduation, Elly plans to go to graduate school for Public Health or Sociology, but next year, looks to work in a non-profit setting in order to better understand health issues before going back to school.

Taylor Hogenkamp '13 is a second year Peer Advisor. He is a Economics major (Mathematics minor) from the beloved city of Buffalo, NY. In past summers he has worked at U.S. Retirement Partners in New Jersey as well as in the Management Development Program at M&T Bank. Taylor is the captain of the swim team and part of the water polo team on campus, and enjoys art history and skiing.

Lisa Labate '14 is a Math and Creative Writing double-major from Queens, New York. Last summer she interned with the Editorial department of Bloomsbury Children's Books in New York City. She is a member of the Red Weather staff and the Kappa Sigma Alpha sorority on campus. She enjoys musicals, writing, and traveling.

Inricka Liburd '13 is a Psychology and Hispanic Studies major from Boston, Massachusetts. Over the past two summers Inricka interned for the Multicultural Marketing Department of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts. Last semester Inricka studied abroad in Madrid, Spain and spent her Spring Break backpacking through Europe with a group of friends. In addition to traveling, Inricka loves watching movies, reading mystery novels, and as co-Captain of the Finesse step team you may have seen her making some noise on campus. Inricka is currently writing her Psychology Senior Thesis about the psychological effects involving childhood obesity and socioeconomic status.

Rachel Lieb '13 is a third year Peer Advisor from Basking Ridge, NJ. She is a History major with a Middle East and Islamic World Studies minor. The last few summer, Rachel volunteered for the Leon Levy Archeological Expedition in Ashkelon, Israel and interned at Bobbi Brown Cosmetics. She is the current Editor-in-Chief of The Spectator and has a radio show on WHCL. Her thesis, on the Arab-Israeli conflict, is almost finished! She is interested in working in government, especially on Middle Eastern policy, after graduation.

Jessica Moulite '14 is a Communications and Women's Studies double major from Miami, Florida. She enjoys helping fellow Hamiltonians think about what they are interested in academically, as well as helping them consider many diverse career options. She is a member of the Feminists of Color Collective, as well as a Peer Tutor in the Oral Communications Center.

Sarah Pfund '14 is a World Politics major with a concentration in Environmental Studies with a minor in Women's Studies. She come to Hamilton from Ho Ho Kus, New Jersey. Sarah is the Captain of Varsity Volleyball team, Orientation Coordinator, Intramural Committee member, and just out of volleyball season. She is also a site coordinator for Study Buddies. Sarah spent her summer at Educational Testing Services. Upon completion of two-week training, she traveled to Kansas City, Missouri to oversee the system that is used to track and grade high school AP exams. Sarah ended her summer with a second internship at a county prosecutor's office in the domestic violence unit.

Matt Ross '13 is a Sociology major from Wayzata, Minnesota. Last summer he worked in Advertising for Calvin Klein in New York City. He enjoys athletics, traveling, and is a part of the Alpha Delta Phi fraternity on campus. He is currently writing a senior thesis about the effectiveness of digital and social advertising on college aged consumers.

Emma Taylor '13 is a Sociology major and a Religious Studies minor from Milford, Connecticut. She is a member of the Hamilton Curling Team and is slowly surely teaching herself how to play the banjo. She has explored many aspects of the non-profit field, most recently as an intern at Preble Street in Portland, Maine last summer. After graduation, Emma is planning on pursuing a career in non-profit administration or corporate philanthropy.

Ready to schedule an appointment?
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SAAC promotes athletics

from SAAC, page 16

Game of the Week, there will be incentives such as t-shirts and free food, and publicity circulating around campus prior to the games in hopes to gain support. However, there are many other options as to what SAAC can bring to the Hamilton community.

Klein briefly explains some of the other projects SAAC is taking on, "SAAC is looking to get the student-athlete voice heard. This year's goals include brother and sister teams to increase attendance at athletic events. Another plan is to be part of the You Can Play initiative, which promotes acceptance and equality in sports regardless of sexual preference. We are also trying to figure out ways to better celebrate sportsmanship on campus and increase community service for the surrounding communities."

Ultimately, the goal of SAAC is to generate more involvement from the athletes and the rest of the study body, whether that is in attendance or community service. As Klein explains, and SAAC members would agree, "creating better school spirit will be great for athletics at Hamilton. If the culture improves, I truly believe teams will thrive off that and that is how winning cultures are established."

Women's basketball plagued by inexperience

by Sterling Xie '16
Sports Writer

With only six returning players, the 2012-2013 Hamilton women's basketball team expected inevitable early season growing pains. The Continentals are off to an 0-3 start after falling to Ithaca and Tufts in the season opening Skidmore Invitational, followed by a loss to SUNY Oswego in the home opener.

In each game, the opposing team has managed a critical second half scoring run to create separation in an otherwise closely contested game, a telltale sign of a Hamilton team still trying to find its footing.

Nevertheless, the consistent skill of the team's three seniors (Eliza Howe, Madie Harlem and Kim Goidell) has provided a reliable foundation while the team searches for the right combination to convert talent into wins.

"I couldn't have asked for a better senior class both on and off the court," praises first-year head coach Michelle Collins. "They have provided positive leadership for our team, especially to our six freshmen."

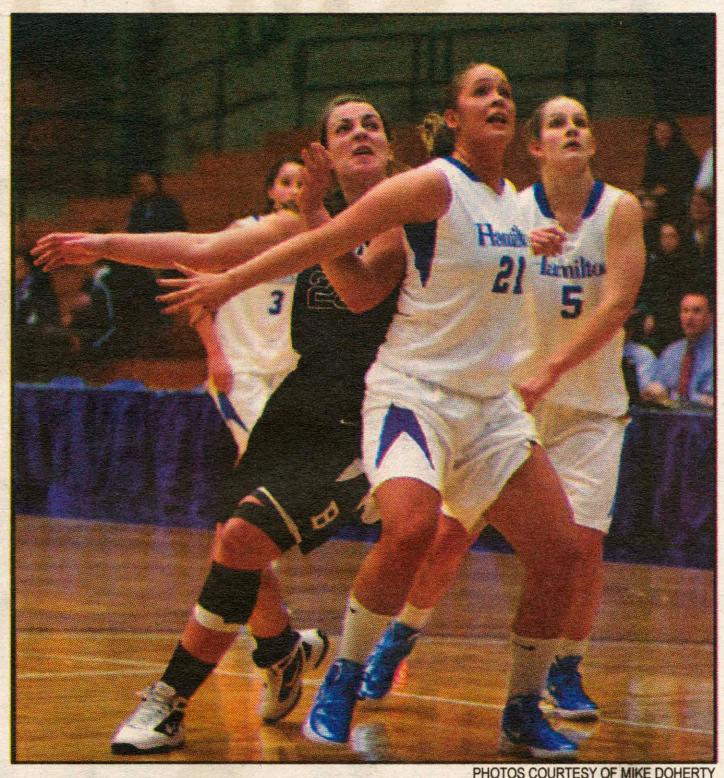
In particular, starting center, Howe, has kept the team in many games. In addition to earning a spot on the all-tournament team at Skidmore, Howe has averaged 15.7 points and 6.3 rebounds per game, often serving as the primary option on offense and the anchor of the team's stout defense. Her efficient 23-point effort against Ithaca (7-13 fieldgoals, 9-11 freethrows) nearly spurred a frantic come-from-behind victory before the Conts fell short, 66-61. The senior captain attributes her early season success to an aggressive mindset, a fact evidenced by leading the team with 26 free throw attempts.

"In the Skidmore tournament games, I think we moved the ball really well and ran our plays well," says Howe. "That led to a lot of open shots and a chance to frequently post up down low for me. My goal in those games was to be as aggressive as possible so I could get to the free throw line as much as possible."

While Howe has provided a strong interior presence, Goidell and Harlem have been a dynamic backcourt combination, accounting for the majority of the team's perimeter scoring. Harlem, who needs just 193 points to become the ninth women's player in school history to reach the 1,000 point milestone, has filled out the stat sheet with her all-around play, leading the team in assists and second in points and rebounds. Goidell has taken primary ball handling responsibilities as the starting point guard, playing the most minutes on the team, including a full forty-minute performance against Oswego.

"Their effort has been absolutely outstanding," Collins says of her guard tandem. "They've especially done a terrific job on the defensive end, which has been so valuable since we're still working out some kinks and trying to be more cohesive on that end of the court."

If it is possible that the team's early season struggles result from the lack of cohesion and inconsistency of so many new faces stands out. Fortunately, many of the errors that have plagued the Conts in these close games could be corrected, since repetition throughout the season can develop the necessary on-court chemistry.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MIKE DOHERTY

Senior Eliza Howe has averaged over 15 ppg this season.

The signs of development are already evident, but the team has yet to execute a complete 40-minute effort. For instance, though the Continentals turned in their best defensive performance of the young season against Oswego (the Lakers shot just 32.6% from the field), their improvement on that end of the floor was wasted by a 20.8% offensive effort. Still, Howe is encouraged by the signs the young team is showing, and feels the results will come with more experience.

"The team chemistry is progressing–right now we're still figuring out each player's role and how to best utilize each person's talents to win games. It's been a rough start so far, but we are getting better and have been playing some good basketball recently."

Hamilton does not play its first NESCAC game until Jan. 4, so there is still plenty of time for the team to make necessary strides before conference play begins. After eight days off, the team resumes competition on Wednesday with a game at Union College, before a pair of weekend games at Utica College and a home game against Morrisville State.

HAMILTON SPORTS WINTER SCHEDULE

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Nov. 29: HOME vs. Keystone @ 7 P.M.
Dec. 1: HOME vs. SUNY IT @ 3 P.M.
Dec. 5: HOME vs. Univ. of Rochester @ 7 P.M.

MEN'S/WOMEN'S SQUASH
Jan. 15: Away @ Middlebury
Jan. 18: Away @ Colby
Jan. 19: Away @ Amherst

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Dec. 2: HOME vs. Morrisville State @ 2 P.M.
Dec. 8: HOME vs. Alfred University @ 2 P.M.
Dec. 15: HOME vs. Buffalo State @ 3 P.M.

MEN'S ICE HOCKEY
Dec. 31: HOME vs. Curry @ 2 P.M.

WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY
Jan. 18: HOME vs. Trinity @ 7 P.M.
Jan. 19: HOME vs. Trinity @ 3 P.M.

MEN'S/WOMEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING
Jan. 7: Away @ Wesleyan
Jan. 12: Founders Invitational
Jan. 19: Away @ Amherst

H SPECTATOR SPORTS
November 29, 2012

SAAC seeks support for Hamilton

by Becca Hazlett '13
Sports Contributor

There are about 600 student-athletes on Hamilton's campus, but sometimes other groups and societies on campus drown out their voices. The Student Athletic Advisory Committee (SAAC) serves as an outlet for athletes' voices to be heard.

As stated on the NESCAC website, the purpose of SAAC is to "serve as the liaison between the student-athletes of NESCAC member institutions and the administrators. The committee will serve as a voice to represent the concerns of all student-athletes and to discuss issues impacting student-athlete well-being."

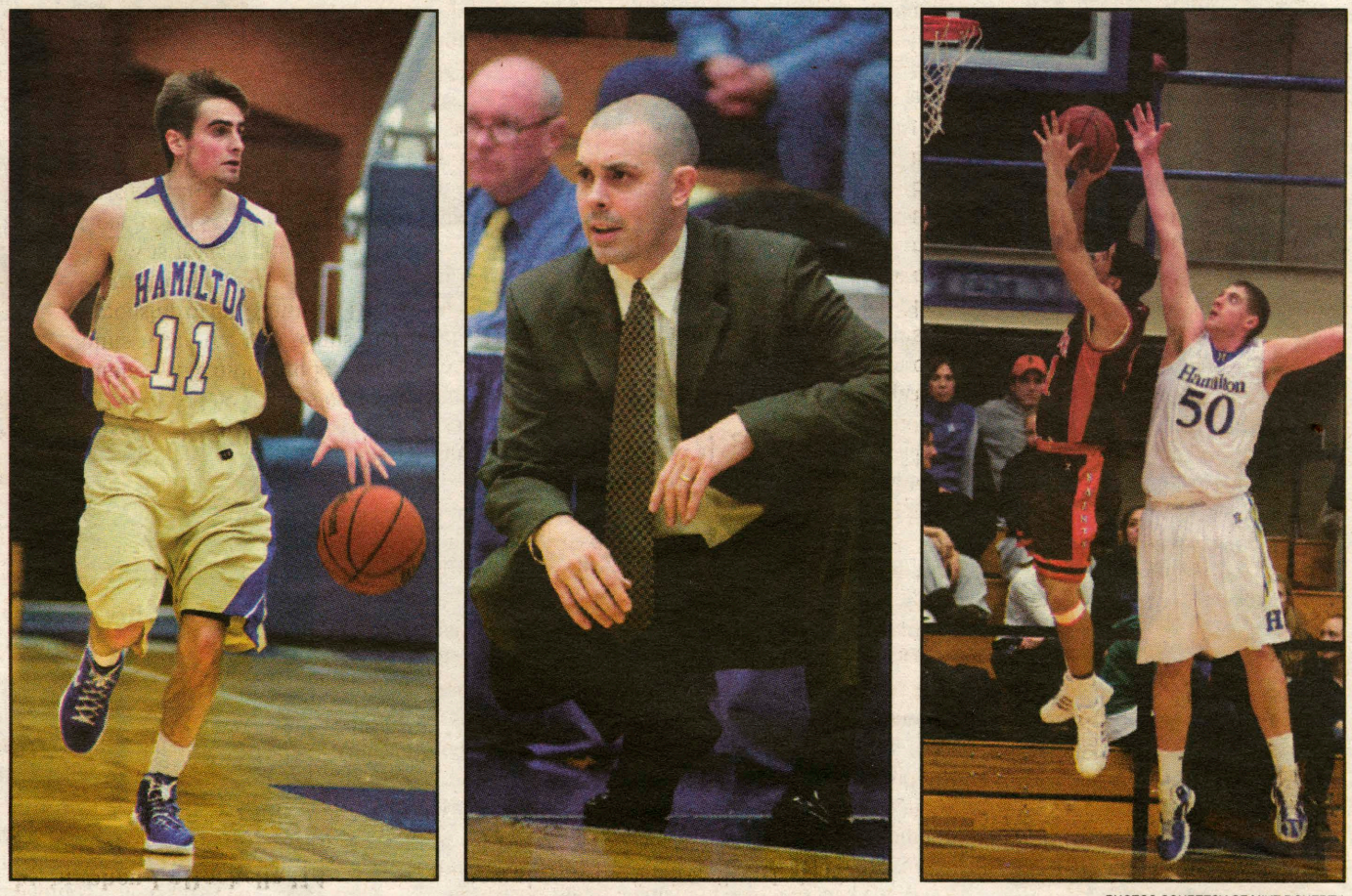
Assistant Athletic Director Kerri Fagan describes the national and institutional important of SAAC: "The role and the voice of SAAC groups, at the institutional, conference and national level, has become important within the NCAA structure. The voice of the collective student-athletes is seriously considered as decisions, which directly impact student-athletes, are made at the national level. At the institutional level, it is just as important for the student-athletes to have an avenue to bring forward issues or concerns and for general discussion." At the beginning of every SAAC meeting, team representatives point out any team specific concerns or issues they have.

This year at Hamilton, SAAC hopes to lead the athletic department in participating in more community service activities, fostering wider support at athletic contests and addressing the concerns of athletes. Each varsity athletic team on campus currently has at least one representative in SAAC, but any athlete is welcome to participate in the meetings. The leader of SAAC is baseball player Gabe Klein '13.

Kerri Fagan describes SAAC as an opportunity for student-athletes from all teams to work together for various causes, ranging from community service to creating pride in being a Hamilton student-athlete. Fagan goes on to say that, "the Hamilton College SAAC group is thoughtful and approaches its responsibilities seriously. The group is committed to working towards common goals and believes that as a group, they can be leaders on this campus."

The current group has already taken on a number of projects, the main project being the "Bleed Blue Game of the Week." This initiative serves the purpose of one athletic team or event gaining full support for the weekend or for one game. SAAC wants to create an environment where students and other teams support each other. At each

see SAAC, page 15



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MIKE DOHERTY

Coach Stockwell (center) hopes that the scoring power of junior guard Greg Newton (left) and a 2011 average of 1 block/game from senior Ken Click (right) will carry the Continentals to a winning season.

High hopes for men's basketball

by Stephen LaRochelle '14
Sports Staff Writer

For the second straight season under head coach Adam Stockwell, the Hamilton men's basketball team is off to a promising start.

No, they haven't won eight straight non-conference games like they did last year. In fact, they're only 2-2. Still, the immediate future looks bright for the Continentals.

One reason for optimism comes from Hamilton's relatively strong showing against an undefeated NYU team that pummeled the Continentals by 37 points just one year ago. The Violets bested the Continentals by the more modest margin of 11 points when the two teams met in the championship of the Hamilton Thanksgiving tournament on Nov. 25.

"NYU was a very talented, veteran team," Coach Stockwell told the Hamilton's Sports Information department after the game. "Their experience came to the forefront as they were more consistent in their playmaking on both ends of the court. Moving forward, it shows us how precise we need to be in all facets of the game. Although the result was not what we wanted, we learned a great deal about who we are and where we are heading this season."

Hamilton struggled out out of the gate offensively against NYU, shooting a cool 33% in the first half. The Continentals recovered with an impressive 50% shooting streak in the second, but by that point the damage had already been done.

Coming in to this season, Hamilton knew that it needed to fill the massive gap in scoring and rebounding production left by the graduation of all-NESCAC performer Pat Sullivan '12. Sullivan, who is now playing professionally in Ireland, averaged over 17 points per game and led the Continentals with 135 boards in 2011-12.

"Anytime a team loses a scorer like Pat," Stockwell explained, "it becomes imperative that other members step up and take stronger roles."

As the leading returning scorer, junior guard Greg Newton has picked up the majority of Sullivan's slack thus far. Newton, who earned Liberty League Rookie of the Year honors as a first-year in 2011, leads the Continentals with 16 points per contest. That's six points better than the 10 ppg he averaged last year. Hamilton's offense has also received a welcome boost in the form of 10 points per game from freshman guard Matt Hart. Hart, who came to Hamilton via Orchard Park, NY, scored a personal best of 13 in the Continentals narrow win over Union College on November 24.

> **"We learned a great deal about who we are and where we are heading this season."**
> *—Coach Adam Stockwell*

Fortunately, Hamilton has the luxury of a balanced offensive attack in which any number of players are capable of posting double digit scoring performances at any time. Senior captains Ken Click and Hans Schulte, sophomores Bradley Gifford and Joseph Lin, and juniors Matt Dean and Marlon Bascombe will all likely put up impressive numbers at some point this season. Each player brings something unique to the Hamilton offensive attack. From Click's post moves, to Schulte's mid-range jumper, to Gifford's three-point range and Lin's speed and passing ability, Hamilton will need each of these players to showcase their skills if they hope to post a winning record in the ultra-competitive NESCAC this season.

"We are slightly more balanced having four players between 8-16 ppg," Stockwell added. "It will be interesting to see, over the course of the season, who is consistently productive as teams start to learn more about us."

Another reason for optimism this year is that the traditionally loaded conference in which Hamilton plays is looking somewhat less loaded so far this year, at least in the eyes of those who vote in the d3hoops.com poll. Last year, three of the nations top ten ranked squads hailed from the NESCAC, and one of them, Middlebury, held a firm grip on the top spot for nearly the entire season. Two NESCAC teams- Middlebury and Amherst, who eliminated Hamilton from postseason play last year- are currently ranked in the top ten. The overall conference record currently stands at 30-20. NESCAC teams were 51-11 at one point last year. Still, the NESCAC is likely the best, or at least the most deep, conference in men's DIII hoops. Whether teams are ranked in the top ten or not, every NESCAC conference matchup is a major battle.

"At this point," according to Stockwell, "all areas [of our game] need to improve considerably to compete in the NESCAC after winter break."

Hamilton will host SUNY IT on Dec. 1 at 3 p.m. in its next home contest. The University of Rochester comes to town for a 7 p.m. start on Dec. 5.